Cut Motion No. 1

Completing road from Kizhakke Chalakkudi to Pariyaram

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,99,085 for Communications—Original Works by Re. 1.*

(To complete the construction of the road from Kizhakke Chalakkudi to St. George School, Pariyaram).

Sir, for the past 3 or 4 years I have made the same request. Even now about half a mile of the road is not completed. Pariyaram is the best vegetable producing centre in the Cochin State. No place is producing so much of bananas. Bananas of Pariyaram are excellent. These agriculturists producing vegetables have to take them to Chalakkudi to dispose of them. If this road is completed it will be a short-cut to the Chalakkudi market. In these days, we must encourage marketing of agricultural products. The cost of this road also would not be much. I would therefore request the Government to do this work at once.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Sir, the honourable member has already brought to the notice of this House on previous occasions the necessity of this road and I have always been saying that the question will be considered along with the next proposals of the Road Board.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* What has the Road Board to do with it? This is a partly-executed work.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* We have not allotted any money for the completion of this work in the next year's budget.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* With the assurance given by the Chief Engineer, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.

Motion by leave withdrawn

Cut Motion No. 2

Connecting the Mulanthuruthi road with Konath River at Mulanthuruthi

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,99,085 for Communications—Original Works by Re. 1.*

(The imperative need of connecting up the Mulanthuruthi road and the Konath river at Mulanthuruthi by opening up a road and a canal between the road at the western cross of the Mulanthuruthi Church and the said river at the portion called Kolancheri thodu).

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Sir, the urgency of this question will be clear to the House when I say that the villages of Kanjiramittam, Mulanthuruthi, Edakkattuvayal, Kulayettikara, Kaipattur and also Amballur, these 6 villages, have no connection with the backwaters and thereby no communication with the Cochin Harbour. The produce of all these villages have to come by the backwaters, because coming by the road is certainly prohibitively costly. Therefore, it is an imperative necessity to connect these villages with the backwaters at a place called Kolancheri thodu. While we have a road running from Trippunittura to Keecheri, we have also a parallel river forming part of the backwater only half a mile distance. In some places it is not even half a mile and it is a pity that the river and the road are not connected at all. The history of this agitation is as old as Mulanthuruthi. We have been crying for this for a long time and our cry has always been in the wilderness. We have approached the Diwan by means of an address *(Laughter)* and the Diwan was pleased to say that you may drop one request, either the thodu or the road. I do not know whether the Diwan remembers it now and when he opened a ward in the Mulanthuruthi hospital he was pleased to remark that one of these will be done. If something will be given, I am prepared to omit the word "and" and substitute the word "or".

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* Sir, on the same question, I had the opportunity of inspecting the sites with the hon'ble mover himself. Then it was thought that it might be more advantageous to construct a canal from the Konath river south of the Konath bund to the Keecheri road just after the Kanjiramittam market. We have now prepared estimate for that work, but unfortunately we were not able to include this in the next year's budget. I am sure that the work will have priority when we prepare our budget for 1117.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Sir, I am glad that the Hon'ble Chief Engineer has given some assuaging words. I may, however, assure the Chief Engineer that the demands of Mulanthuruthi will not be met by constructing the thodu at the place mentioned by him. It will only meet the needs of Keecheri and Amballur. Mulanthuruthi is 4 miles away.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* The road from Mulanthuruthi as per the alignment suggested by the hon'ble member will not reach the Ernakulam-Vaikom road. It will go only as far as the river. This is bunded on both sides by irrigation bunds. So it will not be possible to have through traffic.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* The bunding is only done during summer season. Not only that, the bunds will be only 2 or 3 feet

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wide and it will be easy for transhipment of goods. I request that the need for a road or a canal should not be glided over. I should at least be given that assurance.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):* That question will be considered.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Then, for the present, I would withdraw the motion.

Motion by leave withdrawn

Cut motion No. 3

Lack of proper means of communication in Edavilangu

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,99,085 for Communication—Original Works by Re. 1.*

(To draw attention of the Government to the absolute lack of proper means of communication in the village of Edavilangu.)

Sir, my idea in tabling this motion is to bring to the notice of the Government the absolute lack of communication in Edavilangu. I do not think I can be satisfied by any assurances of the sort which the Chief Engineer has been giving to my hon'ble friend. The peculiar geographical position of this village is such that there communications do not exist at all. On one side you have got Cranganur and on the other side, British India where the District Board happens to have a few roads. As far as Cranganur is concerned the difficulty is "no funds". People there are in the position of being as almost on an island with absolutely no means of either travelling inside or going outside. This is a place which is seldom visited by any Head of Department because of the difficulty of access to it. That is one of the reasons, perhaps, why no money seems to be spent for improving communications. No money is spent there by the Public Works Department unless, of course, the hon'ble member in charge of Public Works says that he has constructed a big bridge costing about Rs. 9,000 last year. I concede that they have constructed a bridge. But then, for the bridge to be used properly there should be other means of communication. Then there is an absolute paucity of Panchayat roads even. The amounts spent for the maintenance of communication in the Edavilangu village is Rs. 180. Now I ask you, is this what you call providing with ordinary means of communication for one village, which is in a remarkably disadvantageous position? It forms a part of the Mukundapuram Taluk. This is a matter for more sympathetic consideration by the Public Works

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